GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Prohibition & Excise – Government's policy of implementing reduced liquor consumption in a phased manner - Number of Shops to be operated by AP State Beverages Corporation Limited further reduced by another 13% or so bringing the total reduction of shops to 33% (from 4380 to 2934) – Orders – Issued.

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REVENUE (EXCISE.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 133 Dated: 09-05-2020.

Read the following:

1. G.O.Ms.No.357, Revenue (Excise.II) Department., dt:16.08.2019.
2. G.O.Ms.No.373, Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dt:22.08.2019.
3. From the Commissioner of Prohibition & Excise, A.P., Cr.No. 3636/2019/CPE/E3 dated 06.05.2020.

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O R D E R :

The following Notification will be published in an Extra-ordinary issue of the Andhra Pradesh Gazette, dated the 9th May, 2020.

**N O T I F I C A T I O N**

Andhra Pradesh Government has committed itself to reducing Alcohol consumption in the state with a view to improve the physical quality of life of its people.

2. As a step in this direction Andhra Pradesh Government removed 43000 Belt shops spread across various villages, throughout the state. Further, in order to ensure that there remain no belt shops in any village the Government removed private people from operating liquor shops. The government has further taken a number of proactive steps to ensure its commitment towards the cause of reduction in alcohol consumption and moving towards better life.

3. A gathering area, right beside the liquor shop popularly known as "permit room" have been dispensed with.

4. The maximum possession limit of Liquor and Beer has been reduced to 3 bottles of any size. Laws have been enacted to ensure strict action in case of possession of liquor beyond a limit or sale of liquor illegally.

5. Business hours have been reduced from 10.00 am – 10.00 pm to 11.00 am – 8.00 pm.

6. In the G.O.Ms.No.357, Revenue (Excise.II) Department., dt:16.08.2019 and G.O.Ms.No.373, Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dt:22.08.2019, the Government keeping in view of its avowed policy of reduction in alcohol consumption has reduced the number of shops from 4380 to 3500 and total operations of shops have been taken over by Government to ensure that there is no illegal sale. The A.P. State Beverages Corporation Limited was granted exclusive privilege to run these retail outlets in the State w.e.f. 01.10.2019 in public interest.

7. In order to discourage consumption of Liquor the price of liquor was increased to act as a deterrent. A tax in the form of ARET was levied vide G.O. Ms No 422 Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dated: 30.09.2019, GO Ms No 471 Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dated:22.11.2019 and GO Ms No 491, Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dated:05.12.2019. The Government further increased the ARET vide GO MS No 128 Rev (Excise.II) Department, dated: 04.05.2020 and GO MS No. 129 Revenue (Excise.II) Department, dated: 05.05.2020.

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8. Further the Government issued orders to reduce bars by 40% from (840) to (530) which is subjudiced.

9. In order to create awareness among the public on the evils of consumption of liquor / intoxicants, the Madya Vimochana Prachara Committee was constituted and awareness programs are being conducted all over the State.

10. All the above measures taken up to reduce consumption of liquor in a phased manner have yielded positive results. For the period from Oct, 2019 to Mar, 2020 there is a drastic fall in the sale of liquor by 24% and that of beer by 55%.

11. The Government has simultaneously taken a number of pro-active steps to control supply of illicit liquor

12. In (147) 'A' category villages in which illicit Distillation of liquor is widespread regular raids were done.

13. Compared to previous years, the detection, arrests, seizures of contraband and vehicles is very high during the year 2020 (From January to April) due to commitment of the Government to reduce the alcohol consumption.

14. No. of cases detected (January to April):

| Year | No. of cases detected | Persons arrested | ID Liquor seized (in Litres) | Wash destroyed (in Litres) | Black Jaggery (in Kgs) | Vehicles seized |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2017 | 3,812 | 2,487 | 30,084 | 9,08,320 | 59,049 | 191 |
| 2018 | 3,579 | 2,763 | 34,540 | 6,58,738 | 51,026 | 188 |
| 2019 | 5,422 | 3,526 | 56,179 | 8,98,118 | 46,594 | 330 |
| 2020 | 7,812 | 5,870 | 97,482 | 16,41,134 | 70,161 | 1,541 |

15. Further a special drive has been organized from 22.04.2020 to control ID liquor during the Lockdown period which has yielded positive results.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1) | No. of cases | 1,462 |
| 2) | Persons arrested | 1,282 |
| 3) | ID liquor Seized (in Litres) | 14,759 |
| 4) | Wash destroyed (in Litres) | 3,63,430 |
| 5) | Black jaggery seized (in Kgs) | 12,718 |
| 6) | Vehicles Seized | 428 |

16. The Government is also committed to utilizing the services of Mahila Rakshaks and Mahila Mitras along with the services of Grama volunteers and Ward volunteers with a view to strictly enforce illicit distillation.

17. The Government has taken steps to control interstate illicit Distillation and NDPL trade. In this regard interstate coordination meetings, joint raids with other State Governments have been held to control flow of I.D. liquor in order to fulfill Government commitment to safe health and prosperity of its people.

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18. Therefore, the Government in public interest has ensured its commitment by positive leadership and awareness to not only regulate and reduce consumption of liquor but also create a positive response in the minds of the people towards harmful use of alcohol and serious health burden. The Government has further shown its resolve to take necessary steps to reduce health impact and take up aggressive monitoring and surveillance. As a further step towards reduction of consumption of liquor in a phased manner by restricting access for the public to availability of liquor, Government is committed to further reduce the number of Shops to be operated by the A.P. State Beverages Corporation Limited to bring overall reduction to 33% (from 4380 to 2934) by the end of May 2020. This would ensure a further reduction of around 13% of the shops. The District-wise details of Shops to be closed and the balance Shops to be operated by A.P. State Beverages Corporation Limited shall be notified separately.

19. The Commissioner of Prohibition & Excise and the Managing Director, A.P. State Beverages Corporation Limited shall take necessary action accordingly.

**(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)**

**Dr. RAJAT BHARGAVA**
**SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To
The Commissioner of Printing and Stationery and Stores Purchase, A.P., Vijayawada
(with a request to send 100 copies of the Notification to Government and 300 copies to the Commissioner of Prohibition & Excise, A.P., Vijayawada)
The Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Managing Director, A.P. State Beverages Corporation Limited, Vijayawada.
Copy to:
P.S. to Prl. Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of A.P.
P.S. to Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Vice Chairman, Implementation & Monitoring Committee, NAVARATNALU Programme, A.P. Secretariat,Velagapudi.
The Executive Assistant to the Hon'ble CM, Chief Minister's Office (CMO), A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
The Chief Public Relations Officer to the Hon'ble CM, Chief Minister's Office (CMO), A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
P.S. to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister (Excise & CT).
P.S. to the Chief Secretary, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
P.S. to the Special Chief Secretary to Govt. Revenue (CT, P&E, R&S).
SC/SF.

**// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //**

**SECTION OFFICER**